GRAD newsletter

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Published by the Graduate Students' Association of Concordia University

2145 Mackay St. S-306 Tel: 879-7219

Office hours: Monday to Thursday 2:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.

The following are the executive officers and faculty representatives of the Graduate Students' Association for the year 1978/79.

EXECUTIVE OFFICERS

President ..... Giuseppe Matteo
Vice-President ..... Rashter V. Sharma
Secretary-Treasurer ..... Charles Berks

FACULTY REPRESENTATIVES

Commerce ..... David Bradwell
Engineering (Acting) ..... M. Omair Ahmad
Fine Arts ..... Janice Seline
Arts & Science Div.I ..... Vacant
Arts & Science Div.II ..... Michael Daskalakis
Arts & Science Div.III ..... Rajender Sipehia

G.S.A. REPRESENTATIVES ON UNIVERSITY BODIES

Board of Governors ..... Charles Berks
Board of Graduate Studies .... David Bradwell, Rashter Sharma
Concordia Council on Student Life ..... Rashter Sharma
Electrical Engineering Council . D. Sundaramurthy, M. Showleh
Engineering Faculty Council ..... John Huang
Engineering Graduate Studies Committee ..... M.B. Gawargy
Senate ..... Jim Rumson

PARTY

The G.S.A. will be holding its Annual Orientation Party on October 27, 1978. There will be music, dancing and refreshments. Beer will be sold four for a dollar. You can bring one guest. Come and have a good time. I.D. required.

Date: Friday, October 27, 1978
Time: 8:00 p.m.
Place: H-651

DUE TO POSTAL STRIKE, PARTY RESCHEDULED TO NOVEMBER 17, 1978 8:00 P.M. IN H-651

COMMERCE GRADUATE STUDENTS' FACULTY-WIDE ASSOCIATION

After lengthy discussions between the G.S.A. and M.B.A.S.A. officials, it was resolved, that due to the changing nature of Commerce graduate students, and increased graduate program offerings in the Faculty of Commerce & Administration, the M.B.A.S.A. could no longer be considered the sole representative of "commerce graduate students."

With this in mind, the G.S.A. and M.B.A.S.A. developed some structural changes, that included the formation of a Commerce Graduate Students' Association (C.G.S.A.). This association will represent all graduate students in the Faculty of Commerce & Administration in dealing with the G.S.A., Senate, Board of Governors, Graduate Studies Committee (Commerce) and Faculty Council (Commerce).

Upon receiving a request from the G.S.A. and M.B.A.S.A., the Board of Governors of Concordia University gave its approval to the proposed changes on June 8, 1978, and thus the Commerce Graduate Students' Association was formed.

President ..... Jim Rumson
Executive Vice-President ..... Bill Wheeler
Vice-President Planning ..... David Myer
Treasurer ..... Dave Bradwell
Secretary ..... Mike Wilson-Smith

REPORT ON CANADIAN ASSOCIATION OF GRADUATE SCHOOLS

The annual meeting of the Canadian Association of Graduate Schools was held June 19 and 20 in Ottawa. As the topics of discussion were "The State of the Master and Ph.D Degrees in Canada" and others concerning graduate students, the C.A.G.S. executive decided to invite all the graduate associations as part of the official delegation.

Concordia University was represented by Mr. Rashter Sharma, Vice-President of the G.S.A. While the deans and other delegates were more concerned with the infringement of their rights by various government levels, the student bodies from all graduate schools unanimously expressed their deep concern about the changes being brought to the status of visa-students. Due to the handicap of not having a delegated voting right, the students could do no more than postpone for further consideration the proposed acceptance by C.A.G.S. of the government position.

Students all over the country are fighting desperately this discouraging attitude of the Canadian government on all levels against the visa-students.

GRADUATE STUDENT REPRESENTATIVES ON COUNCILS, BOARD AND COMMITTEES

The G.S.A. is looking for students to represent grads on various university committees. The G.S.A. will perform more effectively as students get involved. This involvement will lessen the demands on the Council, while allowing other students to be actively engaged in student affairs. If you'd like the challenge, please call us at 879-7219.

G.S.A. POLICY FOR THOSE PARTICIPATING IN CONFERENCES

Limited funds are available for partial coverage of the cost of trips by graduate students presenting papers related to their fields of study. Please apply (in writing) to the G.S.A. at least one month prior to the presentation of your paper. Should you require further information, contact your faculty representative.

GRADUATE STUDENTS' LOUNGE

Did you know that the graduate students have their own lounge in the Hall Building? It's Room 733. USE IT!

SPEAKERS

During the course of the year, the G.S.A. is planning to invite several guest speakers of general interest to the graduate students.

POSSIBLE GUEST SPEAKERS

Ed Broadbent	Leader N.D.P. Party
Camille Laurin	Provincial Cabinet Minister
Jean Chrétien	Federal Finance Minister
Claude Ryan	Leader Quebec Liberal Party
Claude Taylor	President of Air Canada
Ian MacDonald	Political Analyst & Columnist
Alexander Solzhenytsin .	Author

INVITED GUEST SPEAKER

PROFESSOR JOHN L. HOLMES

Dr. J.L. Holmes is a professor of Chemistry at the University of Ottawa and is one of the foremost authorities in research in the mass spectrometry. He is the author of several articles in various scientific journals. He has been carrying out highly academic research in the fields of Kinetics in Gas Phase Reactions; Mechanisms and Energetics of Positive Ion Fragmentation; Ion Structures in Mass Spectrometry.

Topic: Ion Structures in Gas Phase
Date: November 10, 1978
Time: 2:15 p.m.
Place: H-1070

INCREASE IN TEACHING AND RESEARCH ASSISTANTSHIPS FOR GRADUATE STUDENTS AT CONCORDIA

During the academic session 1977/78, the G.S.A. made clear to University authorities its position on the most important issue concerning graduate students: Teaching Assistantships. It was pointed out that in the past, increases paid to T.A.s had not kept pace with the cost of living. The result had been that more and more graduate students were forced (often in vain) to search for other sources of income. Such activity can only have a detrimental effect on the students' academic and research undertakings.

As this matter was so important to the graduate students at Concordia, the G.S.A. informed the University administration that the situation should not be allowed to continue. The G.S.A. proposed that only indexing T.A. salary increases to the increase in the cost of living can correct this situation. The G.S.A. felt that such a course of action would help to bolster research programs at Concordia and put us in a more competitive position with other Canadian universities with regard to acquiring research grants, as well as in the recruitment of of prospective graduate students.

Former President, Rajender Sipehia arranged a meeting between the G.S.A. Council and the Rector & Vice-Chancellor, Dr. J.W. O'Brien, on April 17, 1978. After lengthy discussion, the G.S.A. was pleased that Dr. O'Brien recognized the importance of indexing T.A.s with the cost of living. Realising the importance of this, the Rector gave an 8% increase to the T.A.'s budget for Concordia University graduate students for the term 1978/79.

The present President is very thankful to former President Rajender Sipehia, and Council members Omair Ahmad, Charles Berks and Rashter V. Sharma for taking part in discussions and negotiations with Rector O'Brien, and accomplishing a great success regarding T.A.s.

The G.S.A. is in contact with the Vice-Rectors and Academic Deans to make sure that the 8% increase in T.A.'s salary passes directly to the graduate students.

HASSLES?

Maybe we can help you. If not, we can probably put you on to someone who can. All you have to do is ask.